

REMARKS

Further to the Amendment filed on December 10, 2003, Claims 38-42 (which depended from canceled claims) have been canceled.

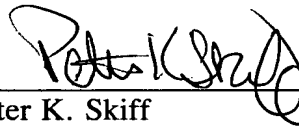
In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 23, 2004

By: _____



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